

values are about equal rights for all, inclusivity, resilience, generosity and abundance.

**HONORING MAJOR GENERAL
IRENE TROWELL-HARRIS**

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the achievements of Major General Irene Trowell-Harris, who is currently the assistant to the director of the Air National Guard (ANG) for human resources readiness in the District of Columbia.

General Trowell-Harris began her career in public service in 1963 when she was commissioned to the New York National Guard. In this role, she served in a number of positions, including chief nurse, nurse administrator, flight nurse instructor and flight nurse examiner. In 1986, she was appointed commander of the 105th U.S. Air Force Clinic in New York, which made her the first nurse in ANG history to command a medical clinic. She then went on to serve as ANG advisor to the chief of the Air Force Nurse Corps and as ANG assistant to the director of medical readiness and nursing services in the Office of the Surgeon General at the United States Air Force headquarters in D.C.

General Trowell-Harris grew up in South Carolina as one of 11 children, working on a cotton field alongside members of her family. However, she always had big dreams and knew that she was destined to achieve something great. As a result, once she graduated from high school, General Trowell-Harris went on to obtain a Bachelor of Arts in Health Education from Jersey City State College in 1971. In 1973, she obtained her Master of Public Health from Yale University. But, General Trowell-Harris did not stop there—she went on to obtain a Doctor of Education in Health Education from Columbia University in 1983.

While General Trowell-Harris has completed her formal education, she continues to receive numerous degrees and honors for various achievements, including the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award and an honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, from the Medical University of South Carolina. In addition, she is a member of multiple organizations, including the American Nurses Association and the Aerospace Medical Association, and was also the first woman in history to have a Tuskegee Airman, Inc. chapter named in her honor, the Major General Trowell-Harris Chapter, located in New York.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the achievements of Major General Irene Trowell-Harris.

**IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF KEITH BADGETT**

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the

retirement of Keith Badgett from the Anniston Army Depot on September 30, 2017 after over 39 years of service.

Keith has made contributions to four different installations/agencies throughout his 39 year career. He served as Voucher Examiner Vendor Pay at Fort McClellan, Alabama, Voucher Examiner and Accounting Technician at the 81st Regional Support Command, as well as Accounting Technician, Management Accounting Analyst and Budget Analyst at Anniston Army Depot.

During his years of service, Keith has served as a role model for his co-workers. He has consistently demonstrated loyalty to his command and the Army during his employment. Keith is dedicated to the mission and displays a sense of duty in all accomplishments.

The retirement ceremony will take place on September 26th.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Keith on his retirement.

**REMEMBERING JUDGE DICKSON
PHILLIPS**

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of North Carolina's finest and most distinguished citizens, James Dickson Phillips, Jr., former Dean of the Law School of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and former judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Judge Phillips died at home in Chapel Hill on August 27, at the age of 94.

A native of Scotland County, North Carolina, Dickson Phillips attended the public schools of Laurinburg and then Davidson College, where his athletic, academic, and leadership abilities became evident. He joined the army upon graduation in 1943. He was commissioned a lieutenant in the 17th Airborne Division and led his platoon as part of Operation Varsity, the largest single-day airborne assault in history. He was badly wounded in a firefight with retreating Germans and was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his service.

Phillips enrolled in the UNC-Chapel Hill Law School after the war. He excelled as a student and in the practice of law and was invited to join the faculty in 1960. He was named Dean in 1964 and served for ten years. The present Dean, Martin Brinkley, describes him as one of the school's greatest deans and a "trail-blazer".

By the fall of his second year as dean, total enrollment at the law school had more than doubled. The faculty also nearly doubled in size during his deanship. Dean Phillips hired Carolina Law's first African-American visiting faculty member, Harry Groves, and its first full-time African-American member, Charles Daye. There was only one African-American student at the law school when Phillips became dean; by 1973, there were 23, along with two Native American and one Latino students. The ten women students who enrolled during his first year had swelled to 121 by the time he left.

During his 10 years as dean, Phillips inaugurated the Holderness Moot court program and the McCall Teaching Award. Small section

classes were instituted for first-year students, and the upper-class curriculum greatly expanded. The first-ever clinical classes were sponsored. By far the largest fundraising effort in the law school's history up to the time was successfully executed, while the 10-year North Carolina bar passage rate among Carolina Law graduates averaged 95.8 Percent.

President Jimmy Carter in 1978 appointed Dickson Phillips to a seat on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, where he served until 1994—the "greatest judge produced in North Carolina", in the judgment of former UNC Law School Dean Gene Nichol "since (eighteenth-century US Supreme Court Justice James) Iredell."

As was recalled in his obituary, "His role as an appellate judge brought together his great personal attributes of precision, clarity and wisdom along with a love of justice and mercy and a generous but realistic understanding of human nature and foibles . . . He brought both a long view of history and the particular experience of life in North Carolina of the Depression and post-war years to his decisions."

Judge Phillips' major cases involved some of the most contentious issues of the day—minority voting rights, gerrymandering, and sex discrimination. In a series of decisions beginning in 1982 with the Gingles case and continuing into the 1990s with the Shaw decisions, he led three-judge federal panels in rejecting state legislative districting that diluted minority voting strength, and upholding as constitutional majority-minority congressional districting. These cases remain important in enabling African-Americans to achieve representation in state legislatures and Congress. In the sex discrimination area, he dissented from the Fourth Circuit panel's finding that the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) could constitutionally provide a "separate but equal" program for women, a position that the U.S. Supreme Court ultimately adopted.

Over the years, Dickson Phillips served on many other fronts—as a trustee of Davidson College, a founding trustee of the NC Nature Conservancy, and first chairman of the state Ethics Commission. He and his wife Jean were faithful members of the University Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill, where they both served in many leadership roles.

I consider myself fortunate to have known Dickson Phillips late in his career—a man of great dignity, a source of wise counsel, always generous with words of encouragement and support. Stories abound of his great kindness, never too busy to relate to aspiring students, law clerks, and citizens of all walks of life. We grieve his loss with his family and friends, even as we express our gratitude for a life of great integrity and accomplishment, with positive consequences for those he touched, and for even more who may never know his name.

A TRIBUTE TO DONALD SYKES

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Donald "Don" Sykes. He was a sociologist and civil rights champion. He passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family on August 13, 2017. He was 80 years old.

Don Sykes was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1936, the second of eight children born to Rose Bolden and father Chester Sykes who died when Donald was three years old. He lived in Chicago public housing while growing up, but said he never felt impoverished. Donald graduated from Wendell Phillips High School, and later taught at Phillips High School, while his younger siblings attended the school. He received a bachelor's degree at Northern Illinois University and later received a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

In 1968, Donald became the Executive Director of the Social Development Commission (SDC) in Milwaukee and joined the war on poverty. He led SDC for the next two decades and during his tenure, the agency grew into Milwaukee County's largest anti-poverty agency. I am proud to say that early in my career, I was employed by SDC in one of my first professional positions. In 1993, Donald was appointed to serve as the director of the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community Relations for President Clinton; he served in Washington, DC for the next seven years developing nationwide welfare and anti-poverty programs. In 2007, Donald returned to Milwaukee to assume leadership of the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board (MWIB), known today as Employ Milwaukee—a public/private partnership that coordinates employment and training programs for adults and youth in Milwaukee County. He announced his retirement from MWIB in 2014, concluding a career of working on behalf of low-income people and the community as a whole. Donald was a gentleman who seldom spoke ill of anyone and who was open to considering differing viewpoints.

Donald married Geraldine Kirksey in 1960 and their union produced two sons, David and Dennis. In the 1970s, Donald and Gerri sponsored Trevor Knight, who became a beloved member of their family. He is survived by his wife Gerri, Sons David (Valerie), Dennis and Trevor (Laura); Grandchildren Travis (Susan), Ashley (Graham) and Tyler; Brothers Leonard and Clifton; Sisters Alberta and Patricia; Nieces Stephanie, Sharon, Jackie, Lisa, Sonja and Shamieka; Nephews Kenneth, Chris, Carleton; and numerous aunts, cousins, grand nieces and nephews. He leaves a strong legacy of leadership for his children and grandchildren to model.

Mr. Speaker, Don was my friend, and a valued member of Milwaukee and the 4th Congressional District. I urge you and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in a salute to the late Donald Sykes.

IN RECOGNITION OF DEBBIE WATROUS AND HER SERVICE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE HUMANITIES

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere gratitude for Debbie Watrous and her 24 remarkable years of service to New Hampshire Humanities.

Debbie's time and dedication to serve our state through this organization has been an in-

valuable contribution, and I congratulate and thank her on her tremendous work.

During her time as Executive Director over the last 13 years, Debbie helped make public programming more accessible. Her work allowed more Granite Staters to discover culture, history, and new ideas.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District and all those who have benefitted from Debbie's work, I thank her for her many years of service to the Granite State. I wish her great joy and success at FoodCorps.

HONORING NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH 2017

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support and recognition of National Recovery Month 2017. According to the Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality's 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 20.8 million individuals aged 12 or older were classified with a substance use disorder, while approximately 43.4 million Americans aged 18 or older had a diagnosed mental illness in 2015. Moreover, in 2015, more than 8.1 million U.S. adults aged 18 or older had co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. These disorders often require long-term, high-quality treatment and support services.

Now in its 27th year, National Recovery Month is coordinated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) every September to increase awareness of the importance of behavioral health conditions and to highlight the achievements of those who have reclaimed their lives in recovery. National Recovery Month also affords Americans the opportunity to learn more about effective prevention, treatment and recovery programs designed to assist those dealing with behavioral health challenges and to celebrate the dedicated service providers who make recovery possible.

The theme for this year's commemoration of National Recovery Month is "Join the Voices for Recovery: Strengthen Families and Communities." The 2017 theme was selected in order to highlight the critical role families and communities play in supporting individuals throughout the recovery process, as well as to encourage individuals in recovery, their family members and their support networks to stay the course by reflecting upon their shared experiences, successes and achievements. I applaud this year's National Recovery Month theme for incorporating the importance of family and community resources in promoting a positive outcome.

Here in the District of Columbia, there are thousands of women and men working day in and day out on behalf of community-based organizations, nonprofit/advocacy associations, health care providers and both local and federal government agencies to support residents who are in recovery from mental and/or substance use disorders. Entities such as the D.C. Department of Behavioral Health, University Legal Services, D.C. Superior Court Men-

tal Health Community Diversion Court, the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia and the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) all offer specialized programming and services to help those confronting behavioral health challenges.

To mark this year's commemoration of National Recovery Month, CSOSA, along with other D.C. public safety partners, will sponsor a series of events, panel discussions and programs designed to increase awareness and understanding of mental and substance abuse disorders throughout the District and to promote people in recovery and those working in the field of recovery. For example, on September 12, 2017, CSOSA's Reentry and Sanctions Center will host an open house to educate the public about CSOSA's treatment services, as well as to promote the ideals and theme of National Recovery Month 2017.

With over 80 percent of CSOSA's entering population self-reporting a history of substance abuse and approximately 40 percent reporting a diagnosed mental illness, CSOSA places a priority on providing quality programming and treatment services. CSOSA provides clients in need of treatment with a variety of services, including detox and short- and long-term residential and aftercare. In addition, CSOSA's Reentry and Sanctions Center provides high-risk clients with intensive assessment and pre-treatment services as well as those with co-occurring substance use and behavioral health challenges.

Mental and/or substance use disorders affect all communities. Yet, with the proper professional help, support and treatment, we know that people suffering from these disorders can achieve healthy and productive lives in recovery. The annual commemoration of National Recovery Month is designed to celebrate the gains made by these individuals and to further educate the American public on the transformative nature of substance use treatment and mental health services.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me and the millions of other American voices of recovery this September in support of National Recovery Month 2017.

NATURAL DISASTERS AND THE FEDERAL RESPONSE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma will both go down in history as two of the most costly and destructive hurricanes in United States history. Hurricane Harvey is thought to be the most powerful hurricane to hit Texas in more than 50 years. Countless individuals, homes, and businesses across the country have been left devastated in their wake. Initial estimates suggest that Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma will have caused between \$150 and \$200 billion in damage to property, homes, and public infrastructure.

These unprecedented storms have already set new records in severity and cost to our nation as we begin to look toward recovery. A strong and coordinated federal, state, and local response is absolutely vital in these critical moments following the storm. More than